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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **ARPIDA A/S** [DK/DK]; Vesterbrogade 188, DK-1800 Frederiksberg C (DK).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **HJELMEN-CRANTZ, Anders** [SE/SE]; Sidbäcksgård 7, SE-216 20 Malmö (SE). **CALI, Patrizia** [IT/DK]; J.C. Christensensgade 2A, DK-2300 Copenhagen S (DK). **GROTH, Thomas** [DK/DK]; Bjørnsonsvej 45A, DK-2500 Valby (DK). **JENSEN, Christian, Eeg** [DK/DK]; Asger Rygs Gade 4, DK-1727 Copenhagen V (DK). **NÆRUM, Lars** [DK/DK]; Alrunevej 14, DK-2900 Hellerup (DK).

(74) Agent: **ALBIHNS A/S**; H.C. Andersens Boulevard 49, DK-1553 Copenhagen V (DK).

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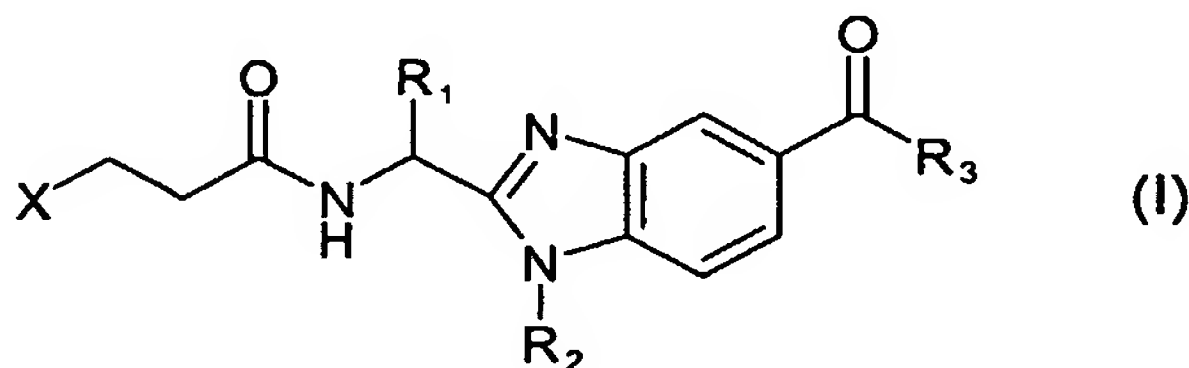
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(54) Title: BENZIMIDAZOLE DERIVATIVES AND USE THEREOF AS PEPTIDE DEFORMYLASE INHIBITORS



(57) Abstract: Benzimidazole compounds of the general formula (I) and pharmaceutically acceptable salts or esters thereof are peptide deformylase inhibitors useful in the treatment or prevention of infections and other diseases in which peptide deformylases are involved, especially in the treatment of bacterial and parasitic infections, for example infections fully or partly caused by microorganisms belonging to *Staphylococcus*, *Enterococcus*, *Streptococcus*, *Haemophilus*, *Moraxella*, *Escherichia*, *Mycobacterium*, *Shigella*, *Salmonella*, *Bordetella*, *Clostridium*, *Helicobacter*, *Mycoplasma*, *Pseudomonas*, *Chlamydia*, *Rickettsia*, *Klebsiella*, *Campylobacter*, *Legionella*, or *Neisseria*.